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United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | RO

Reply To: 3420 Date: OCT 30 1986

Subject: Evaluation of Proposed Stand Prescription

To: Forest Supervisor, Mt. Hood NF

On October 8, Jim Hadfield, pathologist, and Roger Sandquist, entomologist, met with Keith Fagerberg and Bob Walkowiak of the Barlow RD to look for insect and disease problems on Sputterbird Sale, Stand #5, a stand for which Bob Walkowiak was preparing a prescription for his recertification as a Certified Silviculturist.

The stand consists of large overstory ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, 150+ years of age, and Douglas-fir and true fir, approximately 60 and 70 years of age, respectively. The proposed prescription is to do a shelterwood regeneration by removing the younger true fir and Douglas-fir and leaving overstory ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on approximately a 50-foot spacing. The overstory would be removed about 5 years after the first entry, and the site would be planted if regeneration had not occurred naturally.

A small semidormant Armillaria root disease infection center was found in this stand. This disease should not be a serious threat to the success of the proposed prescription of a pine shelterwood cut. The order of tree species susceptibility for the stand is grand fir most susceptible, Douglas-fir intermediate, and ponderosa pine least susceptible. Pine should be favored over fir in this center.

The western pine beetle is endemic in the area and has killed some trees. The proposed stocking level should minimize the stress on the trees and reduce the risk of western pine beetle attacking the pine. In selecting leave trees, use Keen's penalty risk rating system to determine the most vigorous trees, based on crown condition. In addition to being more susceptible, the trees with larger, flatter crowns will also be the poorer seed producers.

Should the current western spruce budworm infestation intensify in the area, it may reduce the potential Douglas-fir cone crop and result in inadequate seedling stocking. If these leave trees suffer significant defoliation, insecticidal implants may be helpful in protecting foliage and a cone crop from budworm. Western spruce budworm is not expected to cause significant damage to seedlings beneath the seed trees. The proposed prescription favoring a regeneration of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir is compatible with managing to reduce losses from western spruce budworm.

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We appreciate the opportunity to review this prescription with Bob and Keith. Forest Pest Management entomologists and pathologists are available to assist you in preparing prescriptions and protection plans for stands on your Forest.

JAMES S. HADFIELD

JAMES S. HADFIELD
Acting Director of Forest Pest Management

cc:
D. Daoust, Mt. Hood NF
R. Walkowiak, Barlow RD

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